

Appl. No. 10/640,341

Amdt. Dated May 16, 2005

Reply to Office Action of February 14, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] FIG. 4A of the Chou patent shows an assembly of the light guide 3, the reflection sheet ~~[[4(not)]~~ 4 (not visible), the second frame 5 and the back plate 6. The diffuser 2 and the first frame 1 are not included. The lamp assemblies 7 are inserted from an open end 57 of a groove 51 of the second frame 5 to a closed end 56 thereof. A screw 62 (shown in FIG. 5 of the Chou patent) is screwed into a hole 64 provided through the back plate 6 to fasten each lamp assembly 7 in the groove 51.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Also referring to FIG. 5 of the Chou patent, to reliably retain the relative position of the fluorescent tubes 72 and the light guide 3, the prior art back light device needs the second frame 5, the back plate 6, the tube guard 71, the holder 73 and the screw 62 which screws into the hole 64 cooperating together to fix and establish the relative positions of the fluorescent tubes 72 and the light guide 3. The assembly/disassembly of the back light device is ~~complicate~~ complicated and requires an excessive amount of time since it has so many components. Furthermore, it is difficult to accurately control the relative positions of the light guide 3 and the fluorescent tubes 72 ~~as-designed~~ according to their design specifications.

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

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[0010] Other objects, advantages, and novel features of the present invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings[[]], in which:

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] A power supply (not shown) applies voltage to each light source 100 through a pair of electrical wires 510 and a pair of electrical connectors 500, shown in FIG. 2. Each electrical connector 500 is secured in a corresponding light source holder 300 and electrically connects an electrode lead (not labeled) of each side of each light source 100 with the corresponding electrical wire 510. Alternatively, each electrical wire 510 can instead be directly soldered and thus connected to the corresponding electrode lead of the corresponding light source 100. One of the electrical wires 510 electrically connects one end of the light source 100 to a positive pole of the power supply, while ~~another~~ the other electrical wire 510 electrically connects the other end of the light source 100 to a negative pole of the power supply.

Please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] In assembly, each electrical wire 510 is soldered or clamped with the corresponding electrical connector 500. First, ~~[[The]]~~ the heat insulated spacers 600, the electrical connectors 500 and the end portions 110 of each light source 100 are arranged in the holes 310 of the corresponding light source holders 300, and ~~make~~ the electrode leads of each light source 100 ~~contacted~~ are fixed in contact with the corresponding electrical connectors 500. Next, the locking protrusions 410 of the reflectors 400 ~~engage~~ are engaged with side edge surfaces 320 of the

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light source holders 300, to couple the reflectors 400 to the light source holder 300. Furthermore, the ~~reflector~~ reflectors 400 can ~~couple~~ be coupled with the light source holders 300 using screws or a bonding process.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] In use, the power supply unit (not shown) applies voltage to each light source 100 through the electrical wires 510 and the electrical connectors 500. Some of the light emitted from the light sources 100 is directly incident into the light guide plate 200, and the remaining light is reflected by the reflectors 400 and is then incident into the light guide plate 200. The light incident into the light guide plate 200 is refracted therein and is emitted from the upper surface ~~front-side~~ thereof. As in any conventional surface light source device, a reflecting plate (not shown) and a diffuser plate (not shown) are respectively bonded to the rear side and the front side of the light guide plate 200 by appropriate means in order to get better illumination characteristics from the surface light source device according to the present invention.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] As described above, since each light source 100 is fixed by the light source holders 300, which are integrated with the light guide plate 200, the relative positions of the light sources 100 and the light guide plate 200 are more easily controlled and accurately maintained according to their design specifications ~~designed value~~. Furthermore, fewer parts are required in the surface light source device, which facilitates assembly and disassembly. In ~~additional~~ addition, the heat insulated spacers 600 are arranged between the inner ~~surface~~ surfaces of the

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holes 310 and the end portions 110 of each light source 100, thereby preventing heat-produced deterioration of the light guide plate 200 due to heat generated by the light sources 100.